

IN THE CLAIMS

This claim listing replaces any and all previously submitted claim listings:

1. (currently amended) An bioactive antimicrobial peptide ~~to prevent or treat bacterial infections, said peptide corresponding to the structure of the active sites of amino-terminal extension of subunits assembling surface adhesive organelles of pathogenic Gram-negative bacteria,~~

said peptide further being capable of preventing self-polymerization of equal peptide units, thereby preventing formation of said surface adhesive organelles.

2. (currently amended) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 1, wherein the pathogenic bacterium is ~~selected from the group consisting of *Yersinia* and *Escherichia coli*.~~

3. (currently amended) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim ~~1~~¹⁷ having amino acid sequence of Ala-Thr-Ala-Thr-Leu-Val, comprising the amino acid sequence X-Thr-X-Thr-Y-Y, wherein X is any amino acid and Y is a hydrophobic amino acid.

4. (canceled) The ~~peptide according to claim 3 wherein Y is Leu or Val.~~

5. (withdrawn) ~~The~~ antimicrobial peptide inhibitor according to claim 17 against pathogenic *Escherichia coli* strains, wherein

the antimicrobial peptide further comprising a sequence Thr-Ala-Thr-Val-Thr-Val-TXTY TZ, wherein T is Thr, X is selected from the group consisting of Ala and Gly, Y is selected from the group consisting of Ala, Thr, and Val, and Z is selected from the group consisting of Ile and Val.

6. (currently amended) The ~~bioactive~~ antimicrobial peptide according to claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial peptide prevents binding of equal protein units with each other and is capable of binding with a binding constant of 10^3 M or higher with a polymerising protein unit.

7. (currently amended) The ~~bioactive~~ antimicrobial peptide according to claim 6, wherein the antimicrobial peptide is effective in preventing self-polymerization of bacterial virulence organelles in a concentration less than 10^{-4} M.

8. (withdrawn) ~~The~~ An antimicrobial peptide according to claim 6, wherein the antimicrobial peptide inhibits polymerization of Dr haemagglutinin, said antimicrobial peptide further comprising a sequence ~~of selected from the group consisting of GTTGTTKL, TTGTTKL and TTKL.~~

9. (withdrawn) A method to treat bacterial infections by preventing self -polymerization of equal peptide units of bacterial surface adhesive organelles, thereby preventing formation of said surface adhesive organelles.

said method further comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically active amount of the antimicrobial ~~bioactive~~ peptide of claim 1.

10. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the antimicrobial peptide is further bound to a small molecular or macromolecular substance, thereby increasing the stability of the peptide.

11. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the antimicrobial peptide is applied orally, subcutaneously, or injected into blood circulation.

12. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 11, wherein the antimicrobial peptide is applied in a concentration between 10^{-4} M to 10^{-10} M in sera during prevention or treatment of microbial infections.

13. (withdrawn) A method for obtaining ~~bioactive~~ antimicrobial peptides according to claim 1, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) Cultivating a non pathogenic test microbial strain expressing recombinant self-polymerizing surface organelles of a bacterium;
- b) Adding a candidate compound of antibacterial drug into a mixture of the self-~~polymerising~~polymerizing organelles in an appropriate concentration;

- c) Investigating degree of ~~polymerisation~~polymerization of the surface organelle; and
- d) Judging that the compound has an antivirulence action when the ~~polymerisation~~polymerization is lowered.

14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the microbial strain expressing recombinant surface organelles is *Escherichia coli* and the polymerizing surface organelle is from *Yersinia*.

15. (withdrawn) An inhibitor molecule ~~being effective in:~~
 preventing non-covalent ~~polymerisation~~polymerization of bacterial virulence surface organelles; by
 preventing binding of equal protein units; and
 associating with a binding constant of 10^3 M or higher with the ~~polymerising~~polymerizing protein units;
said inhibitor molecule further consisting of three threonines linked together with two similar or different linker molecules .

16. (withdrawn) The inhibitor molecule according to claim 15, wherein the linker molecules are amino acids. ~~is a peptide effective in preventing self polymerization of bacterial virulence surface organelles in a concentration less than 10^{-4} M.~~

17. (new) The antimicrobial peptide according to claim 2, wherein the structure of the active sites of amino-terminal extension of subunits assembling surface adhesive organelles of pathogenic Gram-negative bacteria consists of 6 amino acids.